



In This Issue

- [Message from the Executive Secretary](#)
- [Thinking Money: A Traveling Exhibition](#)
- [Creative Classes: Alderson Public Library](#)
- [Continuing Education](#)
- [New Streaming Service](#)
- [Food Drive Success!](#)
- [Letters About Literature](#)
- [WVLC Book Discussion Group](#)
- [Legislative Session](#)
- [TechSoup](#)
- [Trustee Tips](#)
- [Mark Your Calendar](#)
- [WVLC Notices](#)
- [Hardy County "Friends Group"](#)

a message from...

the West Virginia Library Commission

The holiday season is upon us. Best wishes to all those who use libraries, support libraries and make

libraries work.

The West Virginia legislative season is pending. A time for all those who use libraries, support libraries and make libraries work to encourage legislators to maintain the funding that enables libraries to create and maintain a state of learners.

Last month the American Library Association launched Libraries Transform, a campaign designed to increase public awareness of the value, impact, and services provided by libraries. The main idea is that libraries today are less about what they have for people and more about what they do for and with people. The campaign includes a series of because statements. Libraries Transform.....

- Because transformation is essential to the communities we serve.
- Because more than a quarter of U.S. households don't have a computer with an internet connection.
- Because employers want candidates who know the difference between a web search and research.

As you send holiday greetings to your state and local officials, tell them how your library is transforming its services. Tell them how those services are transforming individuals. Tell them how library services, your library's services, impact the community.

In an address to The Reading Agency, a British nonprofit that celebrates the difference that reading makes to all our lives, author Neil Gaiman said, "Libraries really are the gates to the future. So it is unfortunate that, round the world, we observe local authorities seizing the opportunity to close libraries as an easy way to save money, without realising that they are stealing from the future to pay for today. They are closing the gates that should be open."

Those who use libraries, support libraries, and make libraries work must keep delivering that message in both words and actions.

Karen Goff

WVLC Executive Secretary



LEGISLATIVE SESSION

REMINDER: The Legislative session begins January 15, 2015. Throughout the session WVLC posts a weekly Legislative Update on the front page of the website. WVLC Library Legislative Day is February 2. Be a voice for your library by contacting your legislators today and informing them of the huge contribution libraries make to support surrounding communities. [Click Here to Find Out Who Represents You!](#)



Thinking Money:

A traveling exhibition to U.S. public libraries

Money affects all Americans, but many of us lack the knowledge we need to make smart financial choices that will prepare us for whatever the future brings. Thinking Money strives to teach tweens, teens and their parents, caregivers and educators about financial literacy topics – like saving, spending and avoiding fraud – in a way that is not only understandable, but fun.

Thinking Money will tour from August 2016 through July 2018. Selected libraries will host the exhibition for five to six weeks. The exhibition requires approximately 1000 square feet of space for optimal display. Each site will receive a programming allowance of \$1000 to support public programs related to the exhibition.

Applications will be accepted November 2, 2015–January 29, 2016. [Click Here for Application and Submission Information](#)



Imagination, Paint, and Glue...OH MY!

This past September, the **Alderson Public Library** offered an after hours, month-long mask making class to their patrons. With help from a great team of moms, the kids had an awesome time creating these works of art. A couple of the kids even wore their masks during their costume parade at school and entered them into a contest.

Director, **Rose Kirby** says it was a wonderful project and she'll be starting

an ornament class for the holidays.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

[Click Here to Read More About the West Virginia Yearly Requirements for Directors & Staff](#)



In case you missed the "Explora for Schools & Public Libraries" training session yesterday, access the introductory tutorial here: http://support.ebsco.com/training/flash_videos/explora/explora.html

This training is pre-approved for WVLC CE credit. Please send proof of attendance to [Robert Gibson](#) in Library Development.



- [Upcoming and archived webinars from ALA](#)



Beginning Cataloging (CAT1)

Wednesday & Thursday, January 20 & 21

[Register \(Click on the Date on the Calendar\)](#)

Great Webinar Websites to Bookmark

- [TechSoup](#)
 - [InfoPeople](#)
 - [LYRASIS](#)
 - [O'Reilly](#)
 - [Book List Online](#)
 - [Public Library Association](#)
 - [School Library Journal](#)
 - [Library Journal](#)
 - [Publishers Weekly](#)
 - [Demco](#)
-



A new course is now available in the WebJunction Course Catalog!

"[Public Library Directors 101](#)" is a four-part video series designed by state librarians, library development directors, and continuing education coordinators around the question, *"What do public library directors tell us they wish they had known when they started their job?"* It's a valuable and free resource for new library directors and those thinking about becoming directors.

Upcoming Webinars

If you can't attend a live session, all WebJunction webinars are recorded and available for free from the [course catalog](#).



Follow these tweets!

- [@heatherloy](#) – Heather is a librarian in South Carolina with an informative Twitter feed
- Betsy Bird ([@FuseEight](#)) The New York Public Library in New York, NY
- Travis Jonker ([@100scopenotes](#)) Dorr Elementary School in Dorr, MI
- [@HuffPostBooks](#) @HuffPostBooks will keep you up to date on the future of books, whether on paper or screens.

75 Of The Coolest Librarians To Follow On Twitter: <http://librarysciencelist.com/75-of-the-coolest-librarians-to-follow-on-twitter/>



Marion County Public Libraries Offer New Streaming Service

Through Hoopla, library card holders can access 7 items per month including books, movies, television shows and comics. Patrons can access these items without leaving the comfort of their own homes. Marion County Public Libraries are the first in the state to offer a new streaming service.

"Statistics have actually shown that even with the rise of people reading digitally, libraries are still more relevant than ever because we are able to provide services like this," said Marion County PL staff member Katie Hotard.

Food Drive Success!



Staff members from our main library are excited to load up donations of non-perishable food made through the Library's Food for Fines week! The food will be shared between the Community Cupboard in Hurricane and Five Loaves Two Fish in Poca.

Megan H. Tarbett, MLIS
Director, Putnam County Library

Letters About Literature

**Entries Will Be Accepted Beginning
November 2, 2015. All entries must be
postmarked with the following dates:**

- ~ December 4, 2015 ~ Grades 9-12 (Level 3)
- ~ January 11, 2016 ~ Grades 7-8 (Level 2)
- ~ January 15, 2016 ~ Grades 4-6 (Level 1)

[Click Here to Download the
ENTRY GUIDELINES & ENTRY COUPON »](#)

Fiber Upgrade Score as of 12.01.2015



- 77 T-1 Sites
- 74 Ethernet/Fiber Sites
- 2 Cable Sites

Did you notice the new button on the [WVLC website](#)? This link will help patrons locate a particular library quicker. If you still need to update some information or the photo located on your library's web page, [please contact WVLC Admin](#) so that we can make those updates.



WVLC Book Discussion Group

JOIN and ADD to the DISCUSSION!



*Contact Library
Development Services
to request this book
for your book group!*
304-558-3978

"*Nora Bonesteel's Christmas Past* is for me an instant classic, a Christmas tale of mysteries and miracles wrapped up in tradition, and destined to be read annually for years to come. It will delight old fans like me who have been reading Sharyn McCrumb's work for nearly three decades and will warm the hearts of those who pick up this slender volume in the spirit of the season."—**Linda Hitchcock**, Midwest Book Review

Featured Book of the Month!

Nora Bonesteel's *Christmas Past* by Sharyn McCrumb

[Publisher's Official Site](#)



Your library is working hard to make a positive impact in your community, and technology can extend your reach. [That's Where TechSoup Can Help](#). With over 40 partners like Microsoft and Symantec, TechSoup makes donated and discounted software, hardware, and services available to libraries.

- Save on IT Costs
- Webinars
- Training Resources
- Learn from Other Libraries



TRUSTEE TIPS

Congratulations to the Cabell County Public Library Board of Trustees who attended the “Elevator Speech” session at the WVLA Fall Conference and developed the following.

Information Points for Legislators, City & County Officials & Funders

A. No longer just “a place for books,” here are three important ways Cabell County’s eight public libraries support literate, informed and engaged citizens (data estimates based on the most current circulation and usage reports)

1. Leveling the economic playing field: With more than 20% of our county’s citizens living below the poverty level, libraries are vital to providing access to reliable information, free services and materials for all in a safe and welcoming environment:

- On any given week, there are nearly 8,000 individual visits and calls to a public library in Cabell County (including over 5,000 at Huntington’s four locations).
- On any given week, Cabell County’s library professionals answer more than 600 reference questions (including over 500 by staff in Huntington’s four locations).
- On any given week, free notary services are provided more than 100 times at a public library in Cabell County.

- For more than 10 years, the Library's Information & Referral program has brought in close to \$2 million annually for homeless and housing programs.

2. Shrinking the digital divide: When 7 out of 10 teachers assign homework requiring internet access, and more and more job-seekers must apply for work online, library computers and free wireless internet service help close the gap.

- On any given week, people log onto the computers at Cabell County's eight public libraries more than 1,300 times (including over 1,000 times in Huntington's four locations)

3. Sparking the love of learning in our children: Library story times and other free children's events at the library build early literacy, foster a sense of community among families, and help Cabell County's children become lifelong learners.

- On any given week, nearly 800 participants enjoy story time or a children's event at a Cabell County public library (including more than 400 in Huntington's four locations).
- In Summer 2015, over 1,600 young people took part in the Library's Summer Reading Program (including nearly 1,000 in Huntington's four locations).

B. Reasons why local funding is important and appreciated:

- Thanks to the support of Cabell County citizens in faithfully passing levies to support the library system and our eight public libraries in the county, Cabell County is recognized as an exemplary West Virginia library system. (Over 70% of the current CCPL budget is funded through county levies).
- The Cabell County Public Library is a good steward of taxpayer dollars as well as a key employer of "knowledge professionals" who serve the entire population.
- Due to state budget realities and expected cuts, municipal dollars can help CCPL continue to be a vital resource to our citizens. (Funding from the West Virginia Library Commission, Services to Libraries Grants and other state dollars make up about 20% of our current budget.)



Pendleton County Public Library has recently partnered with their local school board and registered to participate in the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a program that provides free books to children ages birth to five to receive a free book a month. For more information about the program visit www.imaginationlibrarywv.org or contact Robin Taylor at WV Department of Education and the Arts.

Mark Your Calendar!



Learn a Foreign Language Month: Expand your communication skills and learn a new language. Speaking another language can increase your brain power and confidence, transform your travel experience and allow you to discover another culture.

Write to a Friend Month: Instead of texting or emailing, how about mailing someone a hand written letter this month?

Celebrate the Game of BINGO in December: Bingo's Birthday Month is an annual designation observed in December. Play some games of bingo in your library and use #Bingo'sBirthdayMonth to post on social media.

The Month of December is Also... [Operation Santa Paws](#), [National Human Rights Month](#) and don't forget...[National Tie Month](#)!



Collect toys, treats, food and needed supplies for your local animal shelter!



Friday, December 4: National Cookie

Day: A designated day for these tasty treats? I'm in!

Sunday, December 6: National Miner's

Day: An "unofficial" national holiday marks the anniversary of the worst mining accident in history. On December 6, 1907, hundreds of miners were killed in Monongah W. Va. In 2009, Congress proclaimed that each December 6 would be recognized as National Miner's Day.

Monday, December 7: National Pearl

Harbor Remembrance Day: Remember and honor the 2,403 victims who were killed in the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Thursday, December 24: Christmas

Eve: WV Library Commission closes at noon.

Friday, December 25: Christmas Day:

WV Library Commission will be closed.

Thursday, December 31: New Years

Eve: WV Library Commission closes at noon.

WVLC Notices...*Happenings in WV Libraries*

- **Pam Coyle**, Director at Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library is retiring at the end of this month. Pam has been working in a library since 1980 and about fourteen of those have been with MBCPL. She has been a great asset to the library and community and we wish her the best in her future endeavors. Thank you Pam!
- **Jefferson County** has a ballot measure on December 12 for an excess levy.
- **Piedmont Public Library** received a \$3500 grant from the J. Norman and Margaret J. Reeves Private Foundation. This money will go towards improving their DVD collection and projector.
- **Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library** is the recipient of a 2015 Ecolab Grant. The grant is in the amount of \$1500 and will be used to purchase, populate and provide programming for TinkerKarts. TinkerKarts are mobile "maker-spaces" that promote hands-on learning and creativity.
4 Karts are planned based on technology, textiles, 3-D printing and creative arts.
- The following libraries showed the biggest percentage increase in Public Access Computer Use between 2010 and 2015.
Terra Alta: 80.43%, **S. Jefferson:** 69.57%, **Kingwood:** 55.13%, **Rupert:** 44.74%, **McDowell:** 40.28%



Held every year in the fall, the **Hardy County Library "Friends Group"** puts together a silent auction to raise money for the library. From gift cards to antiques, the talked about event draws a bigger crowd each year. Director Carol Koontz says, "Not only does the library generate money, but the PR and foot traffic through the library is worth the effort." The auction raised a little more than \$2500.00 for the library this year. What a great way to bring people to the library and a little bit of money too!

Any mention of services or products in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation. The use of any services or products should be evaluated on an individual basis. The West Virginia Library Commission provides no guarantee as to the security,

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